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RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 3303  
RUEHKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 9208  
RUMJRC/AMEMBASSY RANGOON 8816  
RUMJVT/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 6413  
RUDKIA/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI 1978  
RUMJUD/AMCONSUL UDORN 7570  
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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TH

SUBJECT: THAILAND'S MONTHLY NARCOTICS REPORT:  
- DECEMBER 1988

1. THE EMBASSY SUBMITTED THE 1989 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT TO WASHINGTON FOR APPROVAL ON DECEMBER 15. THE DRAFT OF THE 1989 CROP CONTROL AGREEMENT WAS SENT THE FOLLOWING DAY.

2. NEIL KLOPFENSTEIN, USIS JOT, COMPLETED HIS TDY WITH NAU. DURING HIS ASSIGNMENT HE UNDERTOOK A REVIEW OF USG PUBLIC INFORMATION STRATEGY IN SUPPORT OF OUR NARCOTICS OBJECTIVES IN THAILAND.

3. AN UNSIGNED ARTICLE IN THE BANGKOK POST OF DECEMBER 18 GAVE AN ACCOUNT OF A RECENT MEETING OF THE LEADERSHIP OF KHUN SA'S MUANG TAI ARMY AT BAN MUANG HIN. THE SOURCE TOLD THE POST THAT A NUMBER OF BURMESE STUDENTS HAD TAKEN REFUGE WITH KHUN SA, BUT THAT THEY WERE NOT BEING GIVEN TRAINING AND IT WAS KHUN SA'S VIEW THAT THEY SHOULD RESPOND TO THE RANGOON GOVERNMENT'S CALL FOR THEM TO RETURN. THE ARTICLE ALSO MENTIONED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CLASHES BETWEEN THE BURMA ARMY AND THE MUANG TAI ARMY RECENTLY. KHUN SA ALSO FORECAST A VERY GOOD YEAR FOR OPIUM WITH PRODUCTION IN THE SHAN STATES EXCEEDING 1200 TONS, PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE OF GOOD WEATHER.

4. A FREE-WHEELING INTERVIEW BY CAPT. SERI KHAIRASMI OF THE NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION DIVISION IN THE BANGKOK POST OF DECEMBER 26 PORTRAYED THE SEASIDE RESORT OF PATTAYA AS A BUSTLING MEETING

*Ref Conyers*  
*Ref Linn*  
*Ref Brooks*

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PLACE FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL HEROIN DEALERS. HE CLAIMED THAT AN AMERICAN DEALER HAD TRIED TO INTRODUCE COCAINE TO THE LOCAL SCENE, BUT IT HAD NOT CAUGHT ON. PIZZA HUT AND DUNKIN DONUTS HAVE SUCCEEDED IN PATTAYA, BUT APPARENTLY, AT LEAST FOR NOW, COKE IS NOT IT.

5. ON DECEMBER 22 THE BPP RAIDED A HEROIN REFINERY IN MAE CHAEM DISTRICT. TWO POLICE HELICOPTERS SUPPORTED THE RAID IN WHICH TWO POLICEMEN WERE WOUNDED. HEROIN, BOILED OPIUM AND VARIOUS CHEMICALS WERE SEIZED IN THE RAID. NO ONE WAS ARRESTED. THIS WAS THE TENTH REFINERY RAID BY THE POLICE IN 1988.

6. DEA AND NAU GAVE AN IN-DEPTH BRIEFING-ON NARCOTICS TO CONGRESSMEN CONYERS AND TOWNS, WHO VISITED BANGKOK AS A PART OF CODEL BROOKS.

7. DAVID LAMBERTSON, EAP DAS, MET WITH GEN. CHAVALIT YODMANI ON DEC. 14. THE FULL RANGE OF ISSUES INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS CONTROL COOPERATION WAS DISCUSSED. (BANGKOK 62398).

8. ON DECEMBER 5 RETKA AND PONG VISITED TWO VILLAGES IN CHIANG MAI PROVINCE THAT HAD VOWED TO GO OUT OF COMMERCIAL OPIUM PRODUCTION TWO YEARS AGO. BOTH HAD KEPT THEIR PLEDGES AND APPEARED TO BE PROSPERING WITH ALTERNATE CROPS (PRINCIPALLY CABBAGE). (BANGKOK 62954). ON DECEMBER 12 RETKA ACCOMPANIED THIRD ARMY TROOPS ON AN ERADICATION OPERATION IN CHIANG MAI PROVINCE. (BANGKOK 62112).

9. BOB RETKA WAS IN NORTH THAILAND DECEMBER 18 TO 26. ON DECEMBER 20 HE VISITED THE THIRD ARMY OPIUM ERADICATION FORWARD COMMAND POST. ON THE 22ND HE OBSERVED AN ERADICATION OPERATION AT DOI INTHANON AND ON THE 23RD MET WITH COL. PAENG MALAKUN TO DISCUSS A POSSIBLE PROJECT IN THE ANG KHANG AREA. WINDER.  
END OF MESSAGE

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